

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**On page 4, please amend the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph as follows:**

Fig. 1 is a sectional view illustrating an embodiment of the ball screw according to the invention [[.]] ; and

**On page 4, after the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, please insert the following new paragraph:**

Fig. 2 is a schematic illustration of two adjacent balls with a spacer disposed therebetween.

**Please amend the abstract as follows:**

~~The invention provides a~~ A ball screw which is little subject to deterioration of operating characteristics and occurrence of wear, torque change, noise, vibration, etc. during operation due to stagnation or competition of balls. ~~A~~ The ball screw comprising includes a screw shaft having a helical thread groove formed on the outer surface thereof and a nut having a thread groove formed on the inner surface thereof corresponding to the thread groove on the screw shaft which engages with the screw shaft with the interposition of a number of balls rollably provided in a helical ball rolling path formed between the two thread grooves, and spacers between adjacent ones of said number of balls, wherein the variation of the total of the gap between ~~said~~ the balls and spacers during the rolling of the balls is smaller than 1/20 of the diameter of the ball.